

Amendment to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original) A guide device for locating a working axis substantially normal with respect to an articular surface of bone, said device comprising:

 a shaft having an end and an aiming feature for projecting an axis; and

 a contact surface comprising a plurality of points radially extending from the aiming feature of said shaft;

 wherein said plurality of points of said contact surface surrounds a defect in an articular surface.

Claim 2 (original) A guide device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said contact surface is formed by a generally toroidal member coupled to the end of said shaft.

Claim 3 (original) A guide device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said contact surface comprises at least one fin, projection, or deformable element.

Claim 4 (original) A guide device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said shaft is cannulated, and wherein said guide device is adapted to receive a tool for creating a pilot hole through said cannulated shaft and permit said tool to be driven substantially normal

into an articular surface of bone when at least three of said plurality of points of said contact surface make contact with said articular surface of bone.

Claim 5 (original) A guide device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said guide device is adapted to receive a guide pin or wire through said aiming feature and permit said guide pin or wire to be driven substantially normal into an articular surface of bone when at least three of said plurality of points of said contact surface make contact with said articular surface of bone.

Claim 6 (original) A guide device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said contact surface comprises at least one aperture or transparent portion formed therein, permitting the viewing of at least a portion of an articular surface therethrough.

Claim 7 (original) A guide device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said plurality of points of said contact surface corresponds to the plurality of points making contact with an articular surface along the perimeter of an implant.

Claim 8 (original) A guide device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said plurality of points of said contact surface corresponds to the plurality of points along the perimeter of a portion of an articular surface to be removed.

Claim 9 (original) A guide device for locating a working axis substantially normal with respect to an articular surface of bone, said device comprising:

a shaft having an aiming feature for projecting an axis; and
a contact surface comprising a plurality of points radially equidistant from the aiming feature of said shaft.

Claim 10 (original) A guide device for locating a working axis substantially normal with respect to an articular surface of bone, said device comprising:

a shaft having an aiming feature for projecting an axis; and
a contact surface comprising a plurality of points equidistant from the aiming feature of said shaft.

Claim 11 (original) A guide device for locating a working axis substantially normal with respect to an articular surface of bone, said device comprising:

a shaft having an end and a central longitudinal axis; and
a contact surface comprising a plurality of points radially equidistant from said central longitudinal axis.

Claim 12 (original) A guide device for locating a working axis substantially normal with respect to a non-spherical articular surface of bone, said device comprising:

a first element having a longitudinal axis and a contact surface mounted to a shaft;
and

a second element with a contact surface movable with respect to the contact surface of the first element,

wherein, when said guide device is placed on a non-spherical articular surface, both contact surfaces make contact with said articular surface.

Claim 13 (original) A guide device as claimed in claim 12, wherein each said contact surface comprises a plurality of arcuate sections of a generally toroidal member, wherein said generally toroidal member is formed when said contact surfaces make contact with a locally spherical articular surface.

Claim 14 (original) A guide device as claimed in claim 12, wherein one said contact surface is biased in one direction with respect to the other said contact surface.

Claim 15 (original) A guide device as claimed in claim 12, wherein said contact surfaces are adapted such that the contact surface of the first element make contact with a plurality of points along either one of the AP or ML curves of an articular surface, while the contact surface of said second element make contact with a plurality of points along the other of the AP or ML curves of said articular surface.

Claim 16 (original) A guide device as claimed in claim 12, wherein said first or said second element comprises a cannula, wherein said guide device is adapted to receive a tool for creating a pilot hole through said cannula and permit said tool to be driven substantially normal into an articular surface of bone.

Claim 17 (original) A guide device as claimed in claim 12, wherein said first or said second element comprises a cannula, wherein said guide device is adapted to receive a guide pin or wire through said cannula and permit said guide pin or wire to be driven substantially normal into an articular surface of bone.

Claim 18 (original) A guide device as claimed in claim 12, wherein said first or said second element comprises at least one aperture or transparent portion formed therein, permitting the viewing of at least a portion of an articular surface therethrough.

Claim 19 (original) A guide device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the outermost dimensions of said contact surfaces surround a defect in an articular surface.

Claim 20 (original) A guide device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the plurality of points contacting said contact surfaces corresponds to the plurality of points abutting an articular surface along the perimeter of an implant.

Claim 21 (original) A guide device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the plurality of points contacting said contact surfaces corresponds to the plurality of points along the perimeter of a portion of an articular surface to be removed.

Claim 22 (original) A guide device for locating a working axis substantially normal with respect to an articular surface of bone having an anterior-posterior (AP) curve and a medial-lateral (ML) curve, said device comprising:

a cannulated outer shaft, said outer shaft having a central longitudinal axis and an outer component at its distal end, said outer component comprising a set of arms; and

a cannulated inner shaft slidably disposed within the cannula of said outer shaft, said inner shaft having an inner component at its distal end and sharing the central longitudinal axis of said outer shaft, said inner component comprising a set of arms.

Claims 23-78 (cancelled)

Claim 79 (original) A set of guide devices for locating a working axis substantially normal with respect to an articular surface of bone or for determining the dimension of an implant to be installed in an articular surface of bone, said set comprising:

a plurality of variously dimensioned guide devices, each said guide device having a handling tab or shaft and a contact surface; said contact surface comprising a plurality of points radially extending from said handling tab or shaft;

wherein, when at least one said guide device is placed on an articular surface, said contact surface makes contact with said articular surface, and said plurality of points of said contact surface surrounds a defect in said articular surface.

Claim 80 (original) A set of guide devices as claimed in claim 79, wherein said plurality of points of at least one said guide device do not all lie in the same plane.